

# HOOOF PRINTS



Therapeutic Riding of Tucson

Fall 2014

## Hay Day!

**T**hanks to an exciting new partnership with Royal Star Equestrian Center and long-time friend of TROT, Holly Small, our barn is brimming with HAY! Royal Star has included TROT in their wholesale hay order each month. This will save us thousands of dollars this year, and our herd will be enjoying good quality hay. Words can't express our gratitude Holly! [www.royalstarequestrian.com](http://www.royalstarequestrian.com).

Also, we want to thank Lee and Steve Taylor from Arizona Ranch Supply for delivering our first load of hay free of charge and for continuing to help TROT with free delivery every two months. [www.azranchsupply.com](http://www.azranchsupply.com).



★ PLEASE JOIN US AT ★

## HORSIN' AROUND

UNDER THE DESERT SKY

TO BENEFIT THERAPEUTIC RIDING OF TUCSON

FRIDAY  
OCTOBER  
10

6 PM - 10 PM

\$65 • COWBOYS AND COWGIRLS  
\$30 • LITTLE BUCKAROOS AGES 4 TO 11

DRESS IS WESTERN CASUAL  
(SPURS, CHAPS AND HATS ALWAYS ENCOURAGED)

COCKTAILS • BBQ DINNER  
TUBS GALORE SILENT AUCTION  
DANCING TO THE  
CLEAR COUNTRY BAND

COTTONWOOD GROVE  
TANQUE VERDE GUEST RANCH  
14301 E SPEEDWAY  
TUCSON AZ



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

THERAPEUTIC RIDING OF TUCSON

*Ruby Jubilee Celebration  
Open House at the Ranch*

*Save the Date*



Saturday, September 27, 2014  
4 pm - 8 pm

*Enriching the lives of people with special needs using equine-assisted activities and therapies to improve physical, mental, social and emotional well-being.*

# Hearts and Horses 2014 a great success!

**T**he annual Hearts and Horses Gala, TROT's major fundraiser, was a great success once again! The theme "Ruby Jubilee" was chosen in celebration of TROT's 40th anniversary, and the event raised over \$70,000 to support our life changing programs.

The Hilton El Conquistador Resort was the venue for the gala. Patrons dressed in their finery, sipped complimentary champagne cocktails during the silent auction and later enjoyed a delicious steak and seafood dinner. The ballroom glittered with beautiful tablescapes created by *A Perfect Event*.

During our renowned silent auction, guests were treated to the melodious harp music of Christine Vivona and watched while local artist, Tony DiAngelis, painted the swirl of the people and colors of the festivities around him on his canvas.

In the ballroom, Master of Ceremonies, Betsy Bruce, introduced everyone to Joseph Bailey, a rider in our Veterans' Program since 2012, who spoke eloquently about how riding in the program has made a difference in his life. We then saw a video of eight year old Evan, who takes part in our hippotherapy program. Kristen Revis, his Physical Therapist, and Evan's mother, Claudia, both spoke movingly about how much Evan has improved and how much the TROT programs mean to his life.

Paul Ramirez and his well-known Charity Auction Team conducted our live auction which included stunning jewelry pieces, a timeshare vacation, and the just-completed painting of Mr. DiAngelis.

The responses to the "Gifts From The Heart," which were pledge cards asking for donations, were many and generous. We want to send a huge thank you to every single one of our guests who participated.

The gala was made possible by the contributions of many people and organizations, including the 2014 Hearts and Horses Committee, chaired by Vicky Zoerb and Marla Skinner, and the Silent Auction Committee: Mary Ann Elwood, Deb Haddock and Cheryl Morton. As you read this, work and planning has begun for Hearts and Horses on April 11, 2015. The committees are a fun group of people who welcome your help and involvement! Call TROT for more information.

*Claudia Sharpe sharing her son's Evan's experience at TROT, with Kristen Revis, PT.*



*Mary Vardi introducing Joseph Bailey, a veteran rider.*

## From the desk of Bruce Irby *Past TROT Board President*

Dear Friends,

For over forty years, Therapeutic Riding of Tucson (TROT) has provided vital equine therapies to enrich the lives of people with special needs. Presently there are 450 children waiting to participate, indicating how imperative it is that we develop a plan to ensure TROT's continued viability. It is incumbent on each of us to ensure that TROT's legacy endures.

I have received personal gratification from working with this vital program for the last six years. Because of my passion I want to utilize my thirty-five years of experience as a financial planning professional with Ameriprise Financial Services to work toward the continued success of TROT. In my new role as a volunteer I will concentrate on developing programs to ensure the financial viability and sustainability of the organization. These programs may include any or all of the following activities.

1. Estate planning
2. Legacy strategies
3. Gifting (stock, IRA, etc.)

In the fall, we are committed to a series of seminars to identify opportunities for charitable giving, and for the first time, we plan to have an informational booth at our 40th Ruby Jubilee Celebration and Open House on September 27. Our hope is to increase the capacity to serve our community for another 40 years.

In this regard, I will be happy to discuss with you the various financial and tax implications and benefits associated with any of the above mentioned plans or any thoughts you may have concerning alternative plans. We will have the resources to work with any of your other advisors or family members.

May the magic known as TROT continue.

There is no obligation or cost for this event.

Therapeutic Riding of Tucson is not affiliated with Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

**Bruce Irby, Financial Advisor – Heck, Heck, Smith & Associates – A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.**  
4545 East 5th Street, Tucson, AZ 85711 – 520.325.3001

Warmest regards, Bruce Irby, Volunteer



*Bruce Irby at the 2014 Hearts & Horses event.*

# The Horses Teach *by Reta Nickles-Johnson*

**A**lmost three years of outstanding therapy and life experiences with Sierra Ohrel and her team of four-legged master teachers at TROT is the best medicine I've had in my PTSD healing journey. Sierra always intuits the most suitable equine therapist for my circumstance.

In the beginning, I was deeply distraught and tremendously in need of loving kindness. The big, dappled horse named *Tiny* curled his head around my upper body and nestled me into his chest. It was the best hug ever!!



*Reta petting Nutella.*

The miniature horses, *Tulip* and *Lily*, have playfully shown me how to creatively overcome obstacles. *Lily* is a fearless jumper, and *Tulip* goes around hurdles. Being miniature in size is no handicap for success.

Tall, regal Queen *Roxy* commands a purposeful presence.

Her essence demands and receives my respect. Self esteem is her message.

*Wizard* is an outstanding teacher – alert, sensitive, and wise. The privilege of being in his welcoming presence is a great benefit.

*Nutella* (a mustang) and I have a heart connection. We share wild horse energies. In my earliest beginnings, I was rocked in the womb of a mother riding wild mustangs.

All of the horses have taught me valuable life lessons: be curious, be brave, be calm, and trust wisely.



*Reta has some quiet time watching the horses.*

# New Stalls for TROT! *by Mary Vardi*

**T**RROT has received an amazing gift, five new stalls. These stalls stood at the old Foothills Stables, off of Cloud Rd.

The new owners of the property are dismantling all the stabling and offered TROT a wonderful set of stalls, automatic waterers, fans, and rubber mats. We want to thank Dr. Donald Brooks and his wife Ann for their generous gift, which will allow TROT to expand our herd and programs.



The stalls needed to be dismantled and then be reconstructed at TROT. A huge job! Our knights in shining armor for this project were Lloyd Construction. Shorty Pemberton and Bill Jarvis, the Lloyd crew were so professional, and the stalls rose before our eyes. These beautiful stalls have become home to our new horses.

We would also like to thank Vicky Zoerb for spearheading this project. She is an amazing project manager and worked closely with Lloyd's crew.

# Volunteer Appreciation Party *by Cathy Brooks*

**V**olunteers at TROT know the importance of being flexible. Your student may cancel at the last minute, there could be a horse substitution; you may have a new sidewalker to work with or a different tack. Speaking of flexibility; on April 26<sup>th</sup>, the Volunteer Appreciation Party had to go to “plan B”. Instead of dinner in the garden, high winds, and rain chased us all indoors. But after a lovely dinner, provided by Annette Hartman Catering, the skies cleared, and we were able to have dessert and give out awards outside under our majestic eucalyptus tree.

Joining us for dessert was *Calypso* who retired this year after 20 years of service to TROT. He enjoyed his carrot cake even more than the volunteers. We were happy to honor our volunteers who as a group have given more than 9,000 hours of service to our organization. Special thanks to our barn staff and volunteers, our phone team, training team, long lining specialists, our bookkeeping volunteer, Carrie Anway, and Vicky Zoerb for volunteer service. Pins were given out for 2 years of service (40 people), 5 years (8 people), 10 years, Cindy Johnson, 15 years, Jan Neubauer and Jared Ross, 25 years, Paula McNellis, and 30 years, Peg Franz. A new award was given to Bonnie Beckmann for 35+ years of service named the Bonnie Beckmann Award for Exceptional Service. Special thanks to Martha Seger for her gift to provide scholarships in honor of Bonnie

Vern Sheehan was awarded the Richard Greiser Make a Difference Award for all he does to make TROT better in so many ways. Nathalie Oliver was our Volunteer of the Year with over 375 hours; Ariana Winters was Jr. Volunteer

with 70+ hours; Emma McNall was Sub of the Year with over 206 hours; and our Rookies of the Year, Jerry Bryant and Gil Martinez, logged in over 75 hours each. Bruce Irby received the Outstanding Director Award for all his help and support to our organization as a member of our Board of Directors. Suse Hope, a volunteer since 2001 was inducted into our Hall of Fame. The level of commitment from all of our volunteers is amazing, and TROT could not operate and thrive the way it has without them. Here’s to another year ahead of milestones and miracles.



(l to r) Emma McNall, Vern Sheehan, Vicky Zoerb, and Suse Hope.



Mary Vardi giving Calypso his carrot cake.



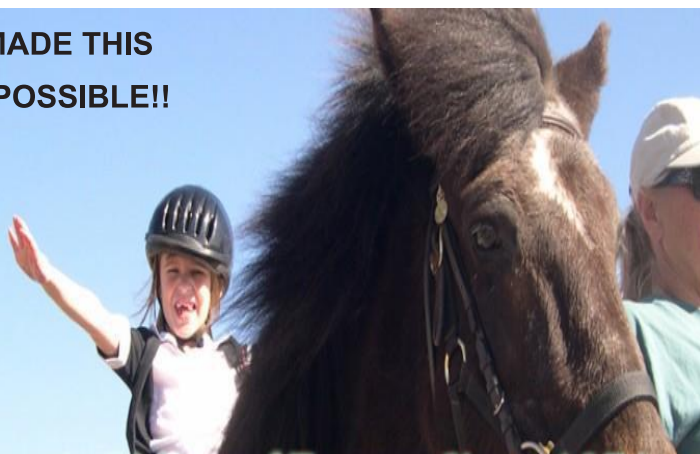
Suse Hope's induction into the TROT Hall of Fame.



(l to r) Dina Scalone Romero, Bonnie Beckmann, Martha Seger, Susan Seger.

**YOU MADE THIS  
SMILE POSSIBLE!!**

**MAKE YOUR  
TAX CREDIT  
DONATION  
TODAY!**



TROT is an Arizona Working Poor Tax Credit Charity able to accept donations of \$200 per year (\$16.66/month) from individuals / \$400 (\$33.33/month) from couples

Donors receive a **CREDIT** for their contribution. **This is not a deduction but a straight credit.** So when you donate your tax credit to TROT, you will get that amount credited directly back to you!!!

Taxpayers are eligible for a school tax credit in addition to the working poor tax credit annually

For more information contact Marcie at 520 749-2360 x 602

## Long-time volunteer, Bruce Bellows, shares his experience working with veterans

“When TROT started the veteran’s program, I quickly volunteered for the honor of working with them. They have given a lot for



our country, and it is a great opportunity to be provide some assistance to veterans in their riding program. Seeing them improve in their riding skills and maneuverability on and with the horse has been very gratifying.”

# Thank You... September 25 through August 13, 2014

## GRANTS

Elizabeth Read Taylor Foundation  
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William Edwin Hall Foundation,  
A Supporting Organization of the  
Community Fnd for So. AZ

## ADOPT A HORSE

### "BEST BUDDY"

Advantech Facility Design, "Carmela"  
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Denise Beattie & Ray Poage, "Skittles"  
Barbara Birt, "Wizard"  
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Desert Skies United Methodist Men, "Nutella"  
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Bruce Irby & Sharon Bundy, "Fiesta" & Nutella  
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Chet & Kathleen Nowak, "Spirit"  
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Bonnie Wilson, "Tootsie"

## ADOPT A RIDER

Dennis Clifford, Jr.

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E.T. Collinsworth III

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by Susan & Martha Seger  
**Bonnie Beckmann's horse**  
by Jane Klein

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### Jamie Flemming's birthday

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by Terri Taylor

## IN MEMORY OF:

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Sheryl & Jamie DeConcini

### John D'Auria

by Carole D'Auria

### "Dante" (Loretta & Tom Rowley's horse)

by Marilyn & Tom Gillman

### Gerard D'Huy

by Christine D'Huy

### Betsy Hannon

by John & Dawn Lashley

### Karen Irby

by Barbara Irby

by Fred Farsjo

by Elizabeth & Jerry Samaniego

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# Thank You... September 25 through August 13, 2014

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*"Smiles were a while coming, though we knew they were there. Last week, to the delight of his volunteers and his instructor, for the first time, Jacob laughed out loud!"* Mary Vardi, Program Director

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